

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/519,674
Amendment filed March 15, 2007
Reply to OA dated January 8, 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended): A fluid control device comprising a metal body having a fluid inlet channel, a fluid outlet channel and a communication channel for holding the two channels in communication, and a metal slide member vertically movable in a vertical passage including the communication channel for closing or opening the communication channel with an end portion thereof, the fluid control device being characterized in that ~~that~~ at least the end portion of the slide member is made of an alloy comprising, in % by weight, 0.001 to 0.01% of C, up to 5% of Si, up to 2% of Mn, up to 0.03% of P, up to 100 ppm of S, up to 50ppm of O, 18 to 25% of Cr, 15 to 25% of Ni, 4.5 to 7.0% of Mo, 0.5 to 3.0% of Cu, 0.1 to 0.3% of N, and the balance substantially Fe and other inevitable impurities, wherein the slide member is a stem having one conical end portion tapered toward an extremity thereof, and the stem being made of said alloy in its entirety, thereby eliminating the need for reinforcement with a hard facing material, and being provided with a handle attached to the other end portion thereof, the stem having an externally threaded intermediate portion screwed in an internally threaded portion formed in the vertical passage.

Claim 2. (Cancel)

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Claim 3. (Currently Amended): A fluid control device ~~according to claim 1~~ comprising a metal body having a fluid inlet channel, a fluid outlet channel and a communication channel for holding the two channels in communication, and a metal slide member vertically movable in a vertical passage including the communication channel for closing or opening the communication channel with an end portion thereof, the fluid control device being characterized in that that at least the end portion of the slide member is made of an alloy comprising, in % by weight, 0.001 to 0.01% of C, up to 5% of Si, up to 2% of Mn, up to 0.03% of P, up to 100 ppm of S, up to 50 ppm of O, 18 to 25% of Cr, 15 to 25% of Ni, 4.5 to 7.0% of Mo, 0.5 to 3.0% of Cu, 0.1 to 0.3% of N, and the balance substantially Fe and other inevitable impurities, wherein the slide member comprises a solid cylindrical stem and a conical disk fitted around one end of the stem and tapered toward an outer end thereof, the stem being provided with a handle attached to the other end thereof, ~~the disk being made of said alloy~~, the stem having an externally threaded intermediate portion screwed in an internally threaded portion formed in the vertical passage, the disk being made of said alloy, thereby eliminating the need for reinforcement with a hard facing material.